

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 4, line 26 with the following amended paragraph:

The compounds of the invention can be prepared by means of or analogous to the methods as described by Burg et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. 59, 780 (19361937) for BH_3CO ; Malone et al., Inorg. Chem. 6, 817 (1967) for $\text{M}_2[\text{H}_3\text{B}-\text{COO}]$ and $\text{M}[\text{H}_3\text{B}-\text{COOC}_2\text{H}_5]$; Howe et al., Inorg. Chem. 10, 930 (1971) for $\text{M}[\text{H}_3\text{B}-\text{CONH}_2]$; Spielvogel et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. 102, 6343 (1980) for $[\text{H}_3\text{N}-\text{BH}_2-\text{COOH}]$ and $[(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}-\text{BH}_2-\text{CONHC}_2\text{H}_5]$; Spielvogel et al., Inorg. Chem. 23, 4322 (1984) for $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{HN}-\text{BH}_2-\text{COOCH}_3]$; Spielvogel et al., Inorg. Chem. 23, 1776 (1984) and J. Am. Chem. Soc. 98, 5702 (1976) for $[\text{H}_3\text{N}-\text{BH}_2-\text{CONH}_2]$, $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{HN}-\text{BH}_2-\text{CONHC}_2\text{H}_5]$.